

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1226

By Floyd

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Jay Craven upon his induction into the Tennessee Music Education Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens, who through their extraordinary musical talents, have earned the universal respect of their peers and students; and

WHEREAS, throughout its illustrious history, Tennessee has been blessed with many exemplary citizens who have made significant contributions to the field of music; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding musician is Jay Craven, who boasts an epic musical career spanning more than sixty years and whose countless contributions were recently recognized with his induction into the Tennessee Music Education Association Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Craven was one of two musicians chosen for induction and was recognized at the awards luncheon at the music association's annual conference; and

WHEREAS, Jay Craven's harmonious career began in 1941 when he took his first clarinet lesson; he began playing professionally just three years later; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Craven has enjoyed an amazing fifty-year tenure with the Chattanooga Symphony Orchestra (CSO) that dates back to 1948; although he retired from the orchestra in 1998, he continues to play when he is called upon; and

WHEREAS, through his employment with the CSO, Jay Craven has worked with the youth orchestra and served melodiously as the principal clarinet; he has also taught music to dozens of students, often playing his horn along with the student; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Craven's musical influence is wide and far-reaching; his former students include a former band teacher and assistant principal and a member of the United States Marine Band; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his music lessons and work with the CSO , Mr. Craven still finds time to lend his incredible talents to such notable causes as Memorial Hospital, where he has voluntarily played for the hospital's patients and their family members for at least five hours a week, calming the patients and soothing their families with his musical gift; and

WHEREAS, Jay Craven is a recording artist, completing five *Melodies from Memorial* CDs and donating all of the proceeds to the hospital auxiliary, of which he is a revered member; and

WHEREAS, the consummate professional and musician, Mr. Craven is known for playing with equal professionalism to all audiences, whether those audiences include hundreds in a symphony hall or a single person in a hospital room awaiting surgery; and

WHEREAS, Jay Craven epitomizes the spirit and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Jay Craven for his incomparable service as a great musician and human being and for producing exceptional music in this state; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Jay Craven upon his induction into the Tennessee Music Education Association Hall of Fame, commend his peerless contributions to this State, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.